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Sen. Gilbert reminds residents of deadline for disaster aid

LANSING – Sen. Jud Gilbert, R-Algonac, reminds residents of St. Clair County that the deadline to apply for disaster aid with the Federal Emergency Management Agency is Monday, August 30, 2004.

Homeowner, renters and businesses with damages that occurred from the severe storms, tornadoes and floods of May 20-24 should call 1-800-621-FEMA. The number for those with speech or hearing impairment is (TTY) 1-800-462-7585. Phone lines are open from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

“I encourage everyone to take advantage of this opportunity to receive disaster assistance,” Gilbert said. “I’m glad to see the federal government recognize our needs. This aid will provide much needed relief to many families and business owners.”

Assistance may include:

- grants for basic home repairs and rental assistance;
- U.S. Small Business Administration low-interest loans for renters, homeowners and businesses; and
- grants for serious disaster-related expenses such as the replacement of appliances and furniture.

Before calling, please have the following information available:

- Social Security number;
- insurance information including policy number(s);
- information on damages;
- direct deposit information;
- day and evening contact information.

St. Clair County is one of 23 counties declared federal disaster areas. The others include: Barry, Berrien, Cass, Eaton, Genesee, Gladwin, Ingham, Ionia, Jackson, Kent, Livingston, Macomb, Mecosta, Muskegon, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Sanilac, Shiawassee, St. Joseph, Washtenaw and Wayne.

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